

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 06559 231356Z

46

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 122146

O R 231331Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1303

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T BEIRUT 6559

EXDIS

DEPT TREAT AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR

SUBJECT: BEIRUT EVACUATION: REASON GIVEN FRENCH FOR CONVOY DELAY

1. FRENCH CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, DE LADAILLADE, TOLD ME TODAY, JULY 23, THAT DURING FRENCH CONSULAR OFFICER'S MEETING TODAY WITH PLO SECURITY OFFICIAL, LATTER CLAIMED THAT REASON OUR CONVOY HAS BEEN DELAYED IS PRESENCE OF UNCONTROLLABLE ELEMENTS ALONG NABATIYEH ROUTE. PLO OFFICIAL ALSO SAID THAT THREE LIBYAN SOLDIERS WERE KILLED NEAR THERE, OSTENSIBLY BY SYRIANS.

2. COMMENT: THIS, OF COURSE, IS STORY PLO CONTACT GAVE US, NIGHT BEFORE CONVOY WAS DUE TO LEAVE (BEIRUT 6424.) IT IS INTERESTING

THAT PLO IS REVERTING TO THIS STORY AFTER HAVING SUBSEQUENTLY GIVEN US (AND BRITISH) QUITE DIFFERENT VERSIONS (BEIRUT 6497 AND BEIRUT 6506). INVALIDITY OF VERSION GIVEN FRENCH IS SUBSTANTIATED BY EX-LEBANESE G-2 OFFICIAL FORMERLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS, COL. HAMDAN. HAMDAN ATTRIBUTES CONVOY'S POSTPONEMENT TO SAME BASIS REASON WE HAVE (BEIRUT 6506). HE TOLD EMBASSY LOCAL TODAY THAT THERE ARE NO SECURITY PROBLEMS ALONG NABATIYEH ROUTE, AND THAT "ONLY" REASON FOR PLO POSTPONEMENT DECISION WAS TO PREVENT FOREIGNERS FROM LEAVING LEBANON IN THE LIGHT OF REPORTS

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OF AN IMMINENT ATTACK ON LEBANON BY FOREIGNERS, ESPECIALLY

SYRIANS."

SEELYE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EMERGENCY EVACUATION, SECURITY, POLITICAL STABILITY, CAT-A, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CHARGE D AFFAIRES, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION, PROTECTIVE SERVICES, HOSTAGES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BEIRUT06559  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** AD: JIDDA  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760730/aaaaazqe.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NODS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
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**Review Date:** 09 JUN 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BEIRUT EVACUATION: REASON GIVEN FRENCH FOR CONVOY DELAY  
**TAGS:** AEMR, PFOR, LE, US, FR, PLO, (DE LADAILLADE)  
**To:** STATE SS CAIRO DAMASCUS  
**Type:** TE  
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